ALCATEL USA, INC.

Serial No.: 09/469,670 Group Art Unit: 2662 Examiner: David E. Odland

Amendment to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A <u>router for protocol for a portable router framework</u>
providing transportation of messages between a main processor having a protocol and packet
flow processors having a protocol, the messages transported via a transport media, the <u>router</u>
protocol comprising:

a Dynamic Routing and Control (DRC) driver including a plurality of Application Program Interfaces (API) for interfacing to the main processor;

a transport interface for interfacing between said DRC driver APIs and the transport media:

a Packet Flow Processor (PFP) driver including a plurality of Application Program Interfaces (API) for interfacing to the packet flow processors;

a transport interface for interfacing between said PFP driver APIs and the transport media; and

said DRC driver and said PFP driver transporting messages between the main processor and the packet flow processors.

- 2. (Currently Amended) The <u>router protocol</u> of Claim 1 wherein said messages transported between the main processor and the packet flow processors include internet protocol, routing table distribution and control and maintenance messages.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The router protocol of Claim 1 wherein said PFP driver transports traffic messages between ingress and egress ports of one or more of the packet flow processors an PFP via the transport media.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The <u>router protocol</u> of Claim 3 wherein said traffic includes internet protocol and multi-protocol labels(MPLS) traffic.

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5. (Currently Amended) The <u>router protocol</u> of Claim 1 wherein said DRC driver translates message format and routing information between <u>a first protocol used by</u> the main processor protocol and <u>a second protocol used by</u> the transport media protocol.

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6. (Currently Amended) The router protocol of Claim 1 wherein said DRC driver includes a routing table including addresses of the PFPs.